

## Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 181115Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3798

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T KABUL 3798

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET VIEW OF PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS

SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN KABUL, SOVIETS AND AFGHANS SEE EYE-TO-EYE ON NEED FOR PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS TO RESOLVE PAK-AFGHAN PROBLEMS AND ON DISTRUST OF BHUTTO. IN OUR VIEW, THIS SUBJECT SHOULD BE PURSUED BY THE SECRETARY WITH GROMYKO.

1. AT AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION JUNE 17 IN HONOR OF SOVIET EMBASSY DIPLOMATIC STAFF, MARKING FORTHCOMING MOSCOW SUMMIT, SOVIET AMBASSADOR PUSANOV DESCRIBED TO AMBASSADOR IN SOME GREATER DETAIL THE SOVIET POSITION ON AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS.

2. PUSANOV STRESSED THAT THE SOVIETS FULLY AGREE WITH THE AFGHAN POSITION THAT AFGHAN-PAK DIFFERENCES SHOULD BE SOLVED THROUGH PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT THEY CANNOT BE RESOLVED BY MILITARY MEANS. WHEN AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THIS POSITION IS UNACCEPTABLE TO PAKISTAN BECAUSE IT WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH AFGHANISTAN ABOUT WHAT IT CONSIDERS AN INTERNAL MATTER, PUSANOV COMMENTED THAT AFGHAN-PAK DIFFERENCES WILL TAKE A LONG TIME AND MUCH EFFORT TO SOLVE.

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3. PUSANOV ALSO MENTIONED THAT BHUTTO HAS INVITED HIMSELF TO MOSCOW. HE ADDED THAT BHUTTO IS A PECULIAR FELLOW BECAUSE IN HIS JUNE 13 SPEECH HE CLAIMED A CONNECTION EXISTS BETWEEN DAOUD'S MOSCOW VISIT AND PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL DISORDERS. HE WONDERED WHETHER BHUTTO REALLY WANTS TO VISIT MOSCOW, SAYING THAT THE NOTION OF JOINT AFGHAN-SOVIET EFFORTS TO DISRUPT PAKISTAN'S STABILITY OR INTEGRITY HAD NOT ONCE COME UP IN DAOUD'S DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW.

4. COMMENT. PUSANOV IS A CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AND FORMER RSFSR PREMIER, ATTENDED THE SESSIONS IN MOSCOW BETWEEN DAOUD AND THE SOVIET LEADERS AND SAYS HE ALSO SAW BREZHNEV PRIVATELY DURING THE DAOUD VISIT. HE WAS CLEARLY PLEASED BY THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT. MORE IMPORTANT, IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE CONTENT AND TONE OF HIS AND OF TOP AFGHAN OFFICIALS' POSITIONS ON PAKISTAN AND BHUTTO.

5. RECOMMENDATION: THE SECRETARY SHOULD RAISE IN MOSCOW WITH GROMYKO THE SUBJECT OF PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS WITH A VIEW TO EXPLORING THE SOVIET POSITION FURTHER AND TO REINFORCING WITH THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP OUR ATTACHMENT TO THE INTEGRITY OF PAKISTAN AND THE NEED FOR PRUDENCE AND CAUTION IN APPROACHING THE QUESTION OF PAK-AFGHAN DIFFERENCE SO AS NOT TO EXACERBATE THEM. EMBASSIES ISLAMABAD AND MOSCOW MAY WISH COMMENT ON THIS RECOMMENDATION.  
ELIOT

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